

REMARKS

Claims 1-3, 7, 8, 11, 12, 15, 16, 19-22 are pending in this application, with claims 2-3, 8, 12 and 16 being withdrawn. By this Amendment, claims 4-6, 9-10, 13-14 and 17-18 are canceled without prejudice or disclaimer to the subject matter therein. In view of at least the following, reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested.

I. Interview Summary

Applicants appreciate the courtesies shown to Applicants' representatives by Examiner Shankar in the October 11, 2007 personal interview. Applicants' separate record of the substance of the interview is incorporated into the following remarks.

II. Claim Rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102

The Office Action rejects claims 1, 7, 11, 15 and 19-22 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) over U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0145602 (Matsueda). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

As discussed and agreed upon during the October 11, 2007 personal interview, Matsueda fails to teach, disclose, or suggest a first detector that detects, on the basis of the image signal per unit time; a variation-signal setting unit that sets a variation signal on the basis of the first gray level; and a second signal supplying unit that supplies the variation signal to the opposing electrode.

Therefore, Matsueda fails to teach, disclose or suggest the above-quoted features recited in claims 1 and 7. Thus, Matsueda fails to disclose each and every element recited in claims 1 and 7.

Claims 1, 7, 11, 15 and 19-22 variously depend from claims 1 and 7. Because Matsueda fails to teach, disclose or suggest the features recited in independent claims 1 and 7, dependent claims 1, 7, 11, 15 and 19-22 are patentable for at least the reasons that claims 1 and 7 are patentable, as well as for the additional features they recite.

Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejections is respectfully requested.

III. Rejoinder of Withdrawn Claims

Applicants respectfully request rejoinder and allowance of the withdrawn claims 2, 3, 8, 12 and 16.

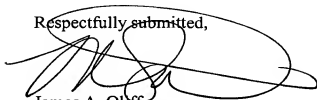
In the April 27, 2007 Amendment and Response to Election of Species Requirement, Applicants argued that claims 1, 7, 11 and 15 read on elected Species 1 and are generic to species 1-5. Upon allowance of generic claims 1, 7, 11 and 15, Applicants respectfully request rejoinder of the withdrawn claims. In this regard, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 2, 3, 8, 12 and 16 variously read on Species 1-5 to which claims 1, 7, 11 and 15 are generic. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request rejoinder and allowance of withdrawn claims 2, 3, 8, 12 and 16.

IV. Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of the claims are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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